

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Specification

In the specification, the paragraphs numbered 35, 36 and 38 have been amended to replace the application numbers with the corresponding patent numbers and/or publication numbers, as suggested by the Examiner.

Applicant's also amended the title per Examiner's request. If the Examiner believes that the new title is not descriptive enough, Applicants respectfully suggest that the Examiner call their attorney with suggestions for the better title.

Claim Status

Claims 1-27 remain in this application.

Claim Rejections.

Claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-27 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Muller et al.

Applicants respectfully disagree that the Muller article anticipates claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-27, for the following reasons:

The Muller article was published after the Applicant's filing date of 4/1/2003. Although the front page of the article has a copy-mark date of 2000, this copy-marked date is a misprint. The depicted date is clearly the wrong date, because the article published in the year 2000 can not reference articles published in years 2001 and 2002 (see the bottom of the second page (the text below Figs. 3a and 3b) of this article).

Applicants respectfully submit that the information corresponding to the Muller article was disclosed at a conference of June 1-6, 2003 (see enclosed) and that the official proceedings (see <http://www.osa.org/pubs/bookstore2/productDetails.asp?ID=530>) were published 1/1/2004 (see enclosed paper). Both of these dates are after the application filing date (priority date of 4/1/2003). Accordingly, 1-9, 11-15 and 17-27 are not anticipated by Muller et al.

Claims 10-16 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Muller et al., as applied to claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-27 above, and further in view of Kawanishi et al (6,404,966 B1)

However, Claims 10-16 are not obvious over Muller et al., as applied to claims 1-9, 11-15 and 17-27 above, and further in view of Kawanishi et al (6,404,966 B1), because the Muller reference was published after the applicant's application date.

Conclusion

Based upon the above amendments, remarks, and papers of records, applicant believes the pending claims of the above-captioned application are in allowable form and patentable over the prior art of record. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Applicant believes that no extension of time is necessary to make this Reply timely. Should applicant be in error, applicant respectfully requests that the Office grant such time extension pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) as necessary to make this Reply timely, and hereby authorizes the Office to charge any necessary fee or surcharge with respect to said time extension to the deposit account of the undersigned firm of attorneys, Deposit Account 03-3325.

Please direct any questions or comments to Svetlana Z. Short at 607-974-0412
Respectfully submitted,

DATE: 11/10/05

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 1. **Accession number:** 04498702364

Title: Dispersion and nonlinear propagation in air-core photonic band-gap fibers

Authors: Ouzounov, Dimitre G.; Ahmad, Faisal R.; Gaeta, Alexander L.; Muller, Dirk; Venkataraman, Natesan; Gallagher, Michael T.; Koch, Karl W.

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Abstract: We characterize the dispersion and nonlinearity of a recently developed extremely-low-loss, air-core photonic band-gap fiber. We show it can support femtosecond solitons with peak powers greater than 2 MW. © 2000 Optical Society of America.

Number of references: 9

Ei main heading: Photons

Ei controlled terms: Optical fibers | Dispersion (waves) | Light propagation | Solitons | Refractive index | Tuning | Optical parametric oscillators | Light amplifiers | Titanium

Uncontrolled terms: Pulse energy | Fiber characterization | Pulse propagation and solitons | Photonic fibers

Ei classification codes: 931.3 Atomic & Molecular Physics | 741.1 Light/Optics | 741.1.2 Fiber Optics | 711.1 Electromagnetic Waves in Different Media | 741.3 Optical Devices & Systems | 542.3 Titanium & Alloys

Treatment: Experimental (EXP)

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